GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:52
ANSWERED ON:27.04.2016
Slow Progress of Infrastructure Projects
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Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

a) whether the Government monitors the status/progress of various infrastructural projects under implementation in the country;

b) if so, the methodology adopted in this regard along with the findings thereof;

c) the details of projects which have incurred time and cost overruns during the last and the current Five Year Plan period, plan-wise;

d) whether steps have been taken to gear up those projects which are running behind schedule; and

e) if so, the details of such projects along with the success achieved in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE FOR MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS [GENERAL (Dr.) V.K. SINGH (Retd.)]

(a) to (e): A Statement is laid on the table of the House.
Statement referred to in Reply to parts (a) to (e) of Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 52 for answer on 27th April 2016.

(a) & (b): Government through the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation monitors on-going Central Sector Infrastructure Projects costing Rs. 150 crore and above (Rs. 20 crore and above before 1st April 2010) on time and cost overruns through its Online Computerized Monitoring System (OCMS) on the basis of information provided by the project implementing agencies.

The OCMS, Government-to-Government (G2G) software, has been developed on Oracle platform with suitable web-interface to enable project implementing agencies to regularly upload the status of projects. The data submission process undergoes multi-level authentication and authorization. The OCMS is not specific to any sector or method of funding. The OCMS portal allows uploading of basic relevant information on projects under implementation, such as: milestones; expenditure; work completion status; problems being faced; reasons for delay; and project related documents (like project plan, PERT and CPM charts) and graphic and pictorial depictions.

When a project is approved by the Government, it is taken on the OCMS for monitoring, and when a project is completed it is taken off the OCMS (this is a continuous and dynamic process).

The causes for time and cost overruns are project-specific, depend on a variety of technical, financial and administrative reasons, and differ from project to project.

The fundamental objective of this Ministry's reports is to provide integrated single access for all the projects cutting across the ministries and the sectors. By the very nature of the integrated single access of this Ministry's monitoring, the information available in its reports does not substitute for the in-depth project-specific Management Information System (MIS) that is required and expected of the concerned project implementing agencies / administrative ministries. The integrated monitoring of this Ministry in no manner precludes or substitutes or dilutes the essential responsibility of the project implementing agencies / administrative ministries for detailed in-depth continuous monitoring of their respective projects.

(c) As on 01.04.2007 (beginning of the XI Plan), total of 491 projects costing Rs 20 crore and above were on the monitor of this Ministry. Of these, 157 were showing time overruns (Annexure IA), 149 were showing cost overruns (Annexure IB) and 43 were showing both time and cost overruns (Annexure IC) with respect to their original project implementation schedules.

As on 01.04.2012 (beginning of the XII Plan), a total of 554 projects costing Rs 150 crore and above were on the monitor of this Ministry. Of these, 260 were showing time overruns (Annexure IIA), 166 were showing cost overruns (Annexure IIB) and 84 were showing both time and cost overruns (Annexure IIC) with respect to their original project implementation schedules.

Presently, as on 01.03.2016, a total of 1071 projects costing Rs 150 crore and above are on the monitor of this Ministry. Of these, 341 are showing time overruns (Annexure IIIA), 238 are showing cost overruns (Annexure IIIB) and 78 are showing both time and cost overruns (Annexure IIIC) with respect to their original project implementation schedules.

(d) & (e): The major steps undertaken to ensure completion of Central Sector Infrastructure Projects without time and cost overruns include: rigorous project appraisal; On-line Computerized Monitoring System (OCMS) for better monitoring; setting up of Standing

Committees in the ministries for fixation of responsibility for time and cost overruns; regular review of infrastructure projects by the concerned administrative ministries; and setting up of Central Sector Projects Coordination Committees (CSPCCs) in the States under the Chief Secretaries for removal of bottlenecks and for facilitating the speedy implementation of projects.